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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT Explosives Factory Near Tvurditsa

DATE DISTR. 31 January 1957

NO. PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED
PLEASE ROUTE

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

1. [redacted] reconstruction of [redacted] factory located five kilometers southwest of Tvurditsa, where an explosive called "Metanit" was to be manufactured. The original factory had been burned down in 1953-1954 [redacted] when a factory employee wearing shoes with iron nails stepped on some explosive which had been scattered on the floor [redacted] 25X1
2. [redacted] the construction site was located on high ground and [redacted] the chimney of the newly built factory could be seen on the high ground on the left side of the railway line. The factory area was about 20-25 hectares and was surrounded by five or six rows of barbed wire about 1.20 meters high. The construction area was guarded day and night by four militiamen armed with carbines, and entrance to the area was forbidden. However, no official entry cards were issued to the workers. 25X1
3. The construction plans were drawn up by Soviet engineers. According to the plans, the factory was expected to be completed in 1956. However, the Soviets made some changes in the plans, and the construction work was stopped on 7 November 1956 (sic) until the plans could be returned [redacted] 25X1
4. About 40 laborers were working on the construction of the factory [redacted] 25X1
5. A sketch of the factory area along with an identifying legend is attached. 25X1

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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SECRET

25X1

ATTACHMENT7 January 1957
Page 3**LEGEND TO THE SKETCH ON PAGES 5 and 6**

1. Boiler room with a smokestack 40 meters high. The building is complete but machines have not been installed as yet.
2. Dormitory for workers; a two-storied building 25 x 10 meters, under construction.
3. Factory management office, an old two-storied building 25 x 10 meters.
4. An underground storeroom with steel doors; an old building. The nature of the material stored therein is not known. A Militiaman guards the entrance. No approach to the building is allowed. Smoking is forbidden in the vicinity of the building.
5. Storerooms, 15 x 12 meters, for explosives; under construction.
6. " " " " " "
7. " " " " " "
8. Buildings, 15 x 8 meters, for a refinery; under construction.
9. " " " " " "
10. A feed store, 20 x 8 meters; an old structure. (possibly a mess hall)
11. A kitchen, 16 x 7 meters, one story; an old building.
12. Dormitory for workers, 10 x 12 meters, one story; an old building.
13. Militia precinct, 12 x 8 meters, one-storied building.
14. A brook.
15. Earth mounds for camouflaging the storerooms for explosives.
16. " " " " " "
17. " " " " " "
18. " " " " " "
19. Sliven - Kazanluk railroad.
20. A gallery dug near the refinery.
21. An electrical transformer, 6 x 4 meters.
22. Barbed wire fence, 1 meter high.

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LEGEND TO THE SKETCH ON PAGES 5 and 6 (cont.)

23. Entrance and Militia post.
24. Tvarditsa - Zapalaya highway.
25. A road branching from the highway towards the factory.
26. A newly constructed road in front of the newly constructed storehouses.
27. Dirt road between the factory and Tvarditsa village,
28. Portal
29. Sliven - Kamenik highway.
30. Heath
31. An old building, 10 x 8 meters.
32. A storehouse 20 x 12 meters; under construction.
33. A storehouse for building material, 20 x 10 meters.
34. A temporary steel bridge.
35. Electric water pump.
36. Portal

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← Kasanluk

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Layout Sketch of a Factory Near Tvurditsa Village,
Sliven Okoliya, Where an Explosive Material Called
"Metanit" is to be Manufactured

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Assembly Plan

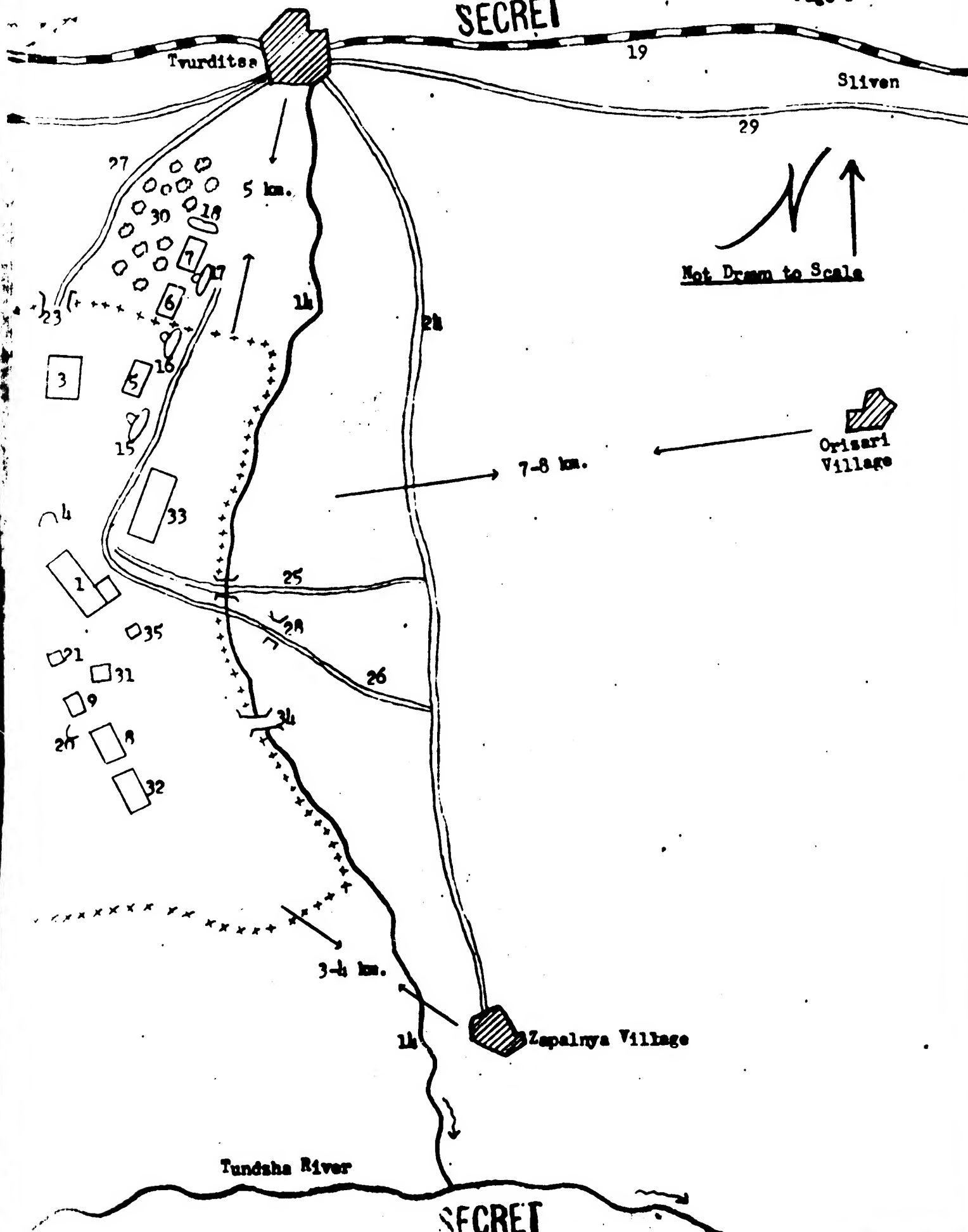
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